

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2882
INFO AMEMBASSY SUVA

UNCLAS CANBERRA 2533

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, UNDP, FJ, AS
SUBJECT: FIJI SEEKS US SUPPORT FOR ITS CANDIDACY TO GOVERNING
COUNCIL OF UNDP

FOLLOWING FIRST PERSON NOTE RECEIVED BY AMBASSADOR FROM FIJI HIGH
COMMISSIONER SEEKING USG SUPPORT FOR FIJI'S CANDIDACY TO
GOVERNMENT BOARD OF UNDP:

QUOTE

"I HAVE THE HONOR TO INFORM YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT FIJI IS A CANDID-
ATE FOR THE ELECTIONS TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE U.N.D.P.
SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE DURING THE SPRING SESSION OF THE
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL TO BE HELD IN NEW YORK DURING THE LAST
THREE WEEKS OF THIS MONTH, AND TO SEEK THE SUPPORT OF THE GOVERN-
MENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DURING THE ELECTIONS.

"OF THE EIGHT ASPIRING COUNTRIES: AFGHANISTAN, BANGLADESH, CHINA,
CYPRUS, FIJI, INDIA, MALAYSIA, SRI LANKA - FOR THE THREE VACANCIES
FOR THE ASIAN REGION - FIJI IS ONE OF THE FOUR THAT HAVE NEVER
BEEN A MEMBER OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL.

"IT IS NOTED THAT CHINA WAS A MEMBER DURING 1975-1977, INDIA
DURING 1976-1975, MALAYSIA DURING 1966, 1968-1970 AND 1973-1975,
SRI LANKA DURING 1966-1967 AND 1975-1977.

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"IN VIEW OF THE INCREASING ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF U.N.D.P.'S
ACTIVITIES IN THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE SMALL
DEVELOPING ISLAND COUNTRIES IN THE PACIFIC, OF THE VITAL LINK THAT
FIJI PROVIDES WITHIN THE PACIFIC REGION AS THE LOCATION OF THE
UNDP SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL OFFICE, OF FIJI'S GREAT FAITH IN THE
OBJECTIVES OF DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE U.N. SYSTEM, AND OF FIJI'S

BELIEF THAT IT COULD CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE UNDERSTANDING
OF THE DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS OF SMALL AND, IN PARTICULAR, ISLAND
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, FIJI BELIEVES IT COULD PLAY A POSITIVE AND
EFFECTIVE ROLE IN THE COUNCIL.

"FINI WOULD THEREFORE BE MOST GRATEFUL FOR YOUR GOVERNMENT'S
SUPPORT IN THE COMING ELECTIONS. I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF THE
REQUEST COULD BE CONVEYED TO YOUR RELEVANT AUTHORITIES AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE." UNQUOTE.
ALSTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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